(b) No, Sir. The investigation report does not establish the allegation.

(c) and (d) The Internal Audit Officer of the NCCF had pointed out in his report that certain matters related to this deal might be got investigated by some outside agency. Government have since handed over the matter to the CBI for investigation.

Bogus Ration Cards in the Capital

1154. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item in the Hindustan Times dated 25th March, 1992 under the caption "More ration claimants than the Delhi population" ; and

(b) if so, what action is being taken to identify and withdraw bogus ration cards in the capital ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government has been advising all States/UTs, including Union Territory of Delhi, to undertake regular verifications to eliminate bogus ration cards/ghost ration units. Checking and deletion of inflated units is a continual process. Delhi Administration makes all efforts to keep a check on inflated units. Special drives are also undertaken by it to eliminate inflated units. Delhi Administration has reported that, in a special drive during May-June, 1991 about 5.5 lakh bogus units were detected and eliminated.

Distribution of Cotton Yarn through PDS

1155. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any arrangements have been made to distribute cottan yarn, at reasonable rates under the Public Distribution System ; and

(b) if no, what are the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In the absence of dual pricing policy for hank yarn, it is not considered necessary to distribute it under the Public Distribution System.

Distribution of essential Commodities at free of cost of Madhya Pradesh

1156. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to distribute essential commodities free of cost in the drought affected tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) how long Government propose to continue this scheme in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Production of edible oils

1157. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) how much edible oil is required for local consumption in India and out of which how much is produced in our country in a year ;

(b) how much of edible oil is produced from minor oil sector obtained from rice bran, cottonseed cakes, expeller cakes of mustard, sunflower, mahua seed and salseed in a year ;

(c) whether it is true that growth in the minor oil sector has been increased during the years 1985-86 and 1989-90 as a result of fiscal incentives given by Govt., if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) whether Govt., will consider giving more fiscal incentives for exploiting the minor oils by the soap and vanaspati industries in order to save foreign exchange in importing edible oils ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) The requirement of edible oils in the country in the current year is estimated to be around 60 lakh MT. As against this the nett domestic supply of edible oils is estimated at around 52 lakh MT.

(b) and (c) The production of edible oils from all minor oils sector is estimated to be around 6.3 lakh MT at present as compared to around 3.2 lakh MT in 1985-86. The details of fiscal incentives given by the Government for use of certain specified oils in the manufacture of vanaspati as on date are as under :—

Fixed veg. oils.	Excise rebate per MT of oil used in vanaspati
1. Rice bran oil	5,000
2. Mahua oil	6,500
3. Watermelon seed oil	6,500
4. SE cottonseed oil	4,000
5. SE Mustard/Rapeseed oil	3,250
6. SE Sun flower oil	3,250
7. SE safflower oil	3,250
8. Palm oil	3,250
9. SE sesame oil	3,250
10. Sal seed fat	3,250

(d) Decision will be taken at an appropriate time.

Poor maintenance Position of PDS

1158. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Times of India dated the 14th April, 1992 under the heading "Poor monsoon may hit PDS".

(b) if so, whether Government agree with the views expressed therein, if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to overcome the difficulties mentioned therein and if the reply is in the negative the reasons which led to the issue of such a report ; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take for success of PDS in such a situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Press Rleease of the India Meteorological Department (IMD) referred to in the Newspaper Report stated that "India is probably heading towards a 'normal' monsoon but again on the lower side of normal, with the possibility of the coming monsoon being somewhat sluggish to begin with." It was also mentioned that this assessment was tentative and that the final and quantitative forecast of the 1992 South-West monsoon would be available by the end of May, 1992. The Newspaper Report perhaps does not fully reflect the spirit of this press release of IMD.

(c) The views of IMD have ben taken note of by the Government. Measures in